

What is claimed is:

1. A fan assembly, comprising:
a base portion that remains stationary during the operation of the fan
assembly, the base portion having a stationary base support plate; and
5 a blower portion that includes:
(i) an oscillating top plate that is operably coupled to the stationary
base support plate,
(ii) a blower that is coupled to the top plate and which oscillates when
the top plate oscillates, and
10 (iii) a grill cover that is coupled to the base support plate in a manner
such that the grill cover remains stationary even when the top plate and the blower
oscillates.
2. The assembly of claim 1, further including a smooth glide mechanism
15 positioned between the top plate and the base support plate.
3. The assembly of claim 2, wherein the smooth glide mechanism
includes a plurality of bearings.
- 20 4. The assembly of claim 1, further including:
a motor coupled to the fixed base support plate, the motor having a crank; and
an arm link having one end coupled to the crank of the motor and another end
coupled to the top plate.
- 25 5. The assembly of claim 1, further including a shaft that is coupled to the
top plate and the base support plate, and which defines an oscillation axis.
6. The assembly of claim 1, further including a control panel coupled to
the blower portion.
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7. The assembly of claim 4, wherein the top plate and the base support
plate define an accommodation space therebetween, with the motor and the arm link
housed inside the accommodation space.

8. The assembly of claim 1, further including a bushing positioned between the top plate and the base support plate.

5 9. The assembly of claim 3, wherein the top plate has an first annular ball bearing track, and the base support plate has a second annular ball bearing track, with the bearings seated between the first and second tracks.

10 10. The assembly of claim 3, wherein the bearings are spaced apart along a retainer ring.

11. A fan assembly, comprising: ✓
a base portion having a base support plate;
a blower portion that includes an oscillating top plate, a blower that is coupled to the top plate and which oscillates when the top plate oscillates; and
15 a smooth glide mechanism positioned between the top plate and the fixed base support plate.

12. The assembly of claim 11, wherein the smooth glide mechanism includes a plurality of bearings.

20 13. The assembly of claim 11, further including a grill cover that is coupled to the base support plate, and which houses the blower.

14. The assembly of claim 12, wherein the top plate has an first annular
25 ball bearing track, and the base support plate has a second annular ball bearing track, with the bearings seated between the first and second tracks.

15. The assembly of claim 12, wherein the bearings are spaced apart along a retainer ring.

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16. A smooth glide assembly for supporting the oscillation of an upper piece about a stationary lower piece in an appliance, comprising:
- an upper piece having a first annular ball bearing track;
 - 5 a stationary lower piece having a second annular ball bearing track; and
 - a retainer ring having a plurality of bearings spaced apart thereon, the retainer ring positioned between the first and second tracks.

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